



**CONGRESSMAN
BEN CARDIN**
WELCOME TO MARYLAND'S 3RD DISTRICT



Congressman Ben Cardin - Maryland's Third District

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Dear Friends,

In January the new Medicare Part D drug benefit went into effect. Unfortunately, millions of seniors, particularly low-income seniors, have had serious problems getting the medications they need.

Low-income seniors were promised "special assistance" in paying for their medications. By law, they are exempt from any deductible and copayments are not to exceed \$5.

But because of serious problems in implementing the new Part D benefit, many of these seniors continue to have problems receiving the medications they were promised. At least 26 states have stepped in to help seniors pay for their medications, at least temporarily.

I believe the states that stepped in and helped their citizens should be fully reimbursed by the federal government. Unfortunately, the Bush Administration has been slow in assuring these states that they will be reimbursed.

To ensure that states are fully reimbursed, I recently introduced *The Medicare Emergency Drug Intervention Compensation Act*. States should not be left holding the bag for doing the right thing.

Sincerely,

Benjamin L. Cardin
Member of Congress



CONGRESSMAN ANNOUNCES NEW FUNDING FOR TOWSON YMCA DAY CARE FACILITY

Rep. Cardin is joined by children from the Towson YMCA Day Care Center as he announces \$100,000 in federal funds to help expand and renovate the center, which provides licensed day care and pre-school for 300 families. He also announced \$160,000 in new funding for a Towson traffic study to reduce congestion and increase pedestrian access.

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